



Series of bite sized liturgical points

litbits

NO 4 | 18

The Easter Triduum

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General Liturgy Preparation for the Easter Triduum

- Review last year's celebrations and note the points that could be improved.
- Consider educating the people on each of the liturgies of the Triduum via handouts or bulletin articles on the one feast, three days.
- In the bulletin, publish any information that requires or assists the community's full participation in a specific liturgy.
- Encourage liturgy committee members to attend the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral.
- Schedule practices for all ministries serving in the liturgies of the Triduum.
- Encourage all ministers to be familiar with the needs of the liturgies and consult the Roman Missal and the General Instruction of the Roman Missal - Final Text with Application for Australia published by St Pauls Publishing when there is a need.
- Try and draw in new people to assist where necessary rather than resorting to the usual helpers. Many times a simple invitation to come and help in a small way is enough to foster a desire for further participation.
- Encourage feedback and note it; whilst the points requiring attention from last year's feedback will be improved there will be more to consider.
- **It is very important that all decisions made by the parish priest and the liturgy committee are communicated to all of the ministers serving the liturgies.** Generous communication or lack of it between ministries can make all the difference.

Check the Resource List on Centre for Liturgy website for further places of reference.

Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that full, conscious and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. SC #14

The liturgies of the Triduum provide the best opportunity for this to be experienced.

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I. Easter Triduum

18. Christ redeemed us all and gave perfect glory to God principally through his paschal mystery: dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. Therefore the Easter triduum of the passion and resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire liturgical year. [7] Thus the solemnity of Easter has the same kind of pre-eminence in the liturgical year that Sunday has in the week. [8]

19. The Easter triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday.

20. On Good Friday [9] and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, [10] the Easter fast is observed everywhere.

21. The Easter Vigil, during the holy night when Christ rose from the dead, ranks as the "the mother of all vigils." [11] Keeping watch, the Church awaits Christ's resurrection and celebrates it in the sacraments. Accordingly, the entire celebration of this vigil should take place at night, that is, should either begin after nightfall or end before the dawn of Sunday.

The General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Useful Resources

'The Sacristy Manual' by G Thomas Ryan published by Liturgy Training Publications.

Preparing for Liturgy series 'Preparing the Liturgical Year 1: Sunday and the Paschal Triduum' by Corbin Eddy published by Norvalis Publications. This is now out of print but available in Catholic Library Education Office of WA.



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